

Playoff Races Shaping Up After Day 3

Just three teams remain undefeated heading into the final day of the round-robin at the 18th Annual Pacific International Cup. Oregon and Washington are both 5 and 0 in the men's International Pool. Washington crushed Nevada 9-1, while Oregon pulled out a 6-3 win over the Yukon. Up 1 without hammer in the 8th end, Oregon Skip Jim Smoltz executed a perfect big-weight double-takeout with his last rock, leaving Yukon Skip Tyler Williams a tricky double-raise takeout to salvage a tie. It wasn't successful, dropping the Yukon to 4 and 2.

Oregon Third Cory Fiendell had to leave the game after 2 ends with a back injury. He was replaced mid-game by Oregon women's coach Adam Seymour.

Colorado and California both had byes on Friday night's final draw, and are still mathematically alive for a playoff spot at 3 and 2. Three teams in each pool make Sunday's playoffs, with Saturday evening allotted for tie-breakers if necessary.

In the B.C. Men's Pool, Nanaimo stayed perfect and clinched a berth in Sunday's B.C. Final, beating Williams Lake 9-1--their 3rd win of the day--to improve to 6 and 0. Island South is a full 2 games ahead of Vernon and Vancouver with one game left in the round-robin (against Vernon). The Okanagan champs squeezed out a 8-7 win over Comox Valley, while Vancouver beat Langley 6-5. Langley and Richmond are still mathematically alive for a tie-breaker at 3 and 3.

Playoff races are extremely tight in both women's pools. There's a three-way tie for first place in the B.C. pool, with Comox Valley, Golden Ears and Cloverdale all sitting at 4 and 1. Comox Valley Skip Val Schultz made a hit and stick through a port with her last shot in the 8th end to beat Richmond 6-5 in Draw 11. Golden Ears stole singles in the first 4 ends on their way to a 6-2 win over Cowichan Rocks. And Cloverdale broke open a tight game against Kamloops with a steal of three in the 6th on their way to a 7-2 win. Richmond is still alive in the playoff race at 3 and 2, with two games left.

Nevada's undefeated run in the women's International Pool came to a dramatic end at the hands of the Yukon, which knocked off the Lake Tahoe team 10-8—erasing an early 5-2 deficit. Nevada and the Yukon are both 5 and 1, one game ahead of Washington, who were upset 7-1 by California. Minnesota is still in playoff contention at 3 and 3, with one game left to play.

The comeback team of the day was Oregon's women's team. Down 6-1 after 4 ends against Australia, Lily Irvin's team scored 2 in the 5th, stole 2 more in the 6th, and stole 4 in the 7th on their way to an 8-7 win—their second win of the week. "Just routine", said the Oregon girls.

Round-robin play continues Saturday morning and afternoon to determine playoff match-ups, with tie-breakers (if necessary) starting at 5 PM. The championship finals are Sunday at 1:30 PDT.

Silent Auction Prize Created by Reality TV Show Stars

Saturday's silent auction will feature dozens of fantastic prizes up for bids, but one turning a lot of heads will likely be a gorgeous (and massive, and heavy!) wood sculpture donated by the men's team from Williams Lake, B.C. When the team knew they were coming to the PIC, they approached Pioneer Log Homes—a Williams Lake company made famous on the reality TV show "Timber Kings". Peter Arnold—one of the Timber Kings crew members—is also a member of the local

curling club. The sculpture (a small tree stump, and actual size curling "rock") is made entirely of western red cedar—the same wood used in Timber Kings log cabins. It will be interesting to see how high the bids go for this unique silent auction prize. Of course, all proceeds from the silent auction go to the event's official charity: Spinal Cord Injury B.C. Many thanks to participating curlers and sponsors who have generously contributed prizes.



Williams Lake Men with their Silent Auction Item from Pioneer Log Homes

Name the Flag Winners!

Jamie Kraus (Skip, Minnesota)

Lynn Post (Second, Cowichan Rocks)

You've won \$50 gift cards useable at the Richmond Curling Centre pro-shop or bar.

Social Media

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pacificinternationalcup/

Twitter: @picupofcurling

Instagram: www.instagram.com/picupcurling/

Use #picupcurl2017 for all your posts!



Bart Sawyer throwing skip stones for Nanaimo CC (Island South Qualifier)

PIC Bitters

Birthday Friday, April 21— New Zealand's Benjamin "Benji" Frew is older today. Probably not as old as our other birthday girl from Cloverdale...

Did you know? Kamloops Second Eleanor Clovechok loves a sport called pickleball!

Vancouver Curling Club Third Andrew Gray learned to curl at the Kingston Curling Club—home of this year's Travelers Canadian Club Curling Championship.

We are looking for more people for the one-end bonspiel!
Sign up for the alternate list, as chances are you will play.

Meet the Teams

Nanaimo Men (Vancouver Island South qualifier)

Skip Bart Sawyer has been curling for 32 years. He has played on teams that reached the BC Men's provincial semi-final, and the finals of a BC Mixed provincial.

Third Steve Waatainen has curled for 36 years, and has won his club championship an astounding 20 times. Steve has made five appearances in the BC Men's provincials.

Second Craig Burton was a member of the 2005 PIC gold medal team from Duncan. He has curled for 14 years.

Lead Keith Clarke has curled for 19 years, and played in the 2010 PIC. He has also reached the BC Men's provincials three times in his career.

It should be noted that they sent in one of the shortest biographies that we received. But if you ask around at the bar between games, you'll probably hear far more about them than you really want to know.

Marpole (BC Lower Mainland women's qualifier)

Lead Laura Fines was born and raised in Manitoba, where curling is "in the blood". After a break to raise two daughters, she took up curling again at Marpole CC with her husband Brad. She has written a self-help manual on the subject of organizing your affairs (www.theexitplanner.weebly.com).

Second Tammy Cameron took up curling as a teen 35 years ago in Kingston, Ontario, where she met another curling teen, her husband Dale, and they have been curling ever since at their various stops throughout the country. Together they have two beautiful daughters and two cats.

Third Miki Endo grew up in Tokyo, and didn't take up the sport until joining Marpole CC in 1998 with her husband Ian and has been addicted to curling ever since. Also has two BIG eyed cats!

Skip Kenna Roald started curling when she was big enough to move a rock down the ice. She was raised in Maple Ridge and spent a lot of afternoons after school at the Golden Ears CC. Now lives in East Vancouver with her two dogs.

Nevada Women -- Lake Tahoe Epic Curling Club

Skip Edith Hazard is originally from Perth, Scotland where she learned to curl at the age of 15. After moving to Lake Tahoe 2 ½ years ago she joined LTEC and has just become the new President of the club.

Third Rebecca (Becca) Kelble started curling in Wisconsin 13 years ago and joined LTEC a year ago when she moved to Nevada. She works for the US Geological Survey as a Wildlife Biologist chasing greater sage-grouse across the state of Nevada as part of a population monitoring research project.

Second Julie Macan has been curling for 4 years. She is a Physical Therapist in South Lake Tahoe and enjoys snowboarding, skiing, mountain biking and rock climbing.

Lead Chris Sullivan has been curling for 4 ½ years with LTEC. Current hobbies include curling, hiking, snowshoeing, scuba, travel fishing and growing older gracefully!

California Men – San Francisco Bay Area Curling Club

Lead Brian Davidson was introduced to curling in 2010, starting with Learn to Curl lessons. 2017 is his second appearance in the PIC.

Second Erik Jensen grew up curling at the Capital Curling Club in Bismarck, North Dakota. He now lives in Oakland. Prior to moving to California, he went to university Notre Dame, now the proud home to the Notre Dame Curling Club.

Third Richard Chin was born in Toronto and played competitively in Southern Ontario, before moving to Maryland and playing at the Potomac Curling Club. He now lives with his family in San Mateo and joined the San Francisco Bay Area Curling Club.

Skip Jesus Barajas lives in Oakland and has been curling since 2006 as a member of the now-defunct Armadillo Curling Club (San Antonio, TX), the Philadelphia Curling Club, and the Hollywood Curling Club. It's his second trip to the PIC.

Title Sponsor

Partner Sponsors